C-State Exit Latency

- PCU monitors interrupt rate, and over-rides C-state choice when desirable
  - Operating system C-state choice depends on CPU utilization
  - On some workloads, CPU utilization is low but latency is important
  - Flexibility provided by PCU allows for complex algorithms to optimize behavior

> *Intel® Core™ microarchitecture (Nehalem) provides benefit of low idle power without hurting performance*

Intel Developer FORUM